

## Brent D. Sherard, M.D., M.P.H., Director and State Health Officer

**Governor Dave Freudenthal** 

January 28, 2008

Dear Lab Manager or Microbiology Supervisor:

The Wyoming Department of Health, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program is happy to announce the Bioterrorism Community Laboratory Capacity Building Grant Project for the 5<sup>th</sup> year, which is made possible by funding from the 2007-2008 CDC Bioterrorism Preparedness and the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Cooperative Agreements. In the 4 previous years of this project, the Bioterrorism Community Laboratory Capacity Building Grant has cumulatively distributed \$1,414,000.00 to the labs in the state of Wyoming. Year 5 Project will provide \$210,000.00 in grants to community laboratories throughout Wyoming.

This year's grants will be distributed differently from previous years. The Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program will distribute the funds in two allotments this year. By allotting funds this way, we can reduce administrative fees associated with fund distribution, putting more money into the hospital laboratories, where it belongs.

This grant is earmarked specifically for Microbiology and the biological agents of terrorism and Pandemic Influenza Preparedness as determined by the CDC. It is our hope that access to this funding has offered your facilities the means to enhance your micro departments, which in turn allows your facility's money to support other areas of the laboratory that can not be addressed through this grant.

Even though this grant will not require from your facility a separate contract, you will still need to specify what the monies will be spent on by completing an application. There are still requirements of this project, such as progress reports and participation in proficiency testing that focuses on the Select Agents. As in previous years, sentinel labs will be required to complete progress reports and be current on the past progress reports before eligibility can be established for the next round of funding.

The fifth year of the Bioterrorism Community Laboratory Capacity Building Grant Project, Allotment 1, will once again focus on educational/training opportunities, professional memberships, communication improvement, and small equipment needs. In addition to this, Allotment 2 of funding focuses on pandemic planning. If you feel there is something your laboratory needs and are not sure it would be covered under this grant, please contact me and we can discuss it.

## **DEADLINES:**

Applications will be turned in to the Grant Administrator during the Laboratory Manager Workshop in Saratoga, Wyoming on March 13, 2008. A section of the workshop will be dedicated to the grant process and computers will be supplied in order for participants to research items as needed.

We would like to Thank-you in advance for your participation in this grant. Please feel free to contact me (307-777-7431) if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Gale Stevens MT (ASCP)
Bioterrorism Laboratory Program Advisor
State Training Coordinator